

NEWS RELEASE

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BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING WILL HONOR  
INDUSTRY EFFORTS TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENT

The Utah Board of Oil, Gas and Mining will present five 2005 Earth Day Awards to four companies for going beyond what is required by regulation to protect the environment while providing society with essential natural resources. The awards will be presented Wednesday, April 27, during ceremonies at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium of the Department of Natural Resources, 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Awards will be presented to:

Bill Barrett Corporation for its educational outreach regarding seismic exploration efforts and numerous environmental improvements during the West Tavaputs seismic surveys and drilling project in Carbon County.

ConocoPhillips will receive two separate awards, one for its work to reclaim a well in Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, and a second for its financial and technical support provided to Utah's Division of Wildlife Resources to restore critical wet meadows habitat in Carbon County.

Energy West Mining Company is being recognized for its use of innovative technology in sealing a large subsidence crack found in Mill Fork Canyon, Emery County. Energy West used aerated concrete and high-density foam to seal the crack then covered with topsoil and reseeded.

Questar Exploration and Production Company is receiving an award for several environmental programs conducted in the vicinity of Red Wash in Uintah County, including wildlife habitat improvement projects, and financing a cultural resource inventory of a roadside "greenstripping" project.

"Earth Day Awards were created as a vehicle to recognize those companies and individuals who go the extra mile in protecting the environment," explained Board Chairman Jim Peacock. "Each of these recipients has taken action on their own initiative to improve our environment and we look forward to recognizing them for their contribution to protecting our environment."

The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining began the Earth Day Awards program in 1991. The essential requirement for receiving an award is that a company must voluntarily perform work that is not required by law. Since that time 51 mining and oil and gas companies, or individuals, have been singled out for their environmental awareness.

A reception for the general public and Earth Day Award recipients will be held at 8:30 a.m. and the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining will begin their formal agenda at 10:30 a.m.

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